

Individuals with High Needs/Significant Risk Workgroup Meeting Notes- 01-07-16

Attending in Helena: Connie Orr & Pat Clark

On phone in Missoula: Mike Sadowski, Fran Sadowski, Vickie Poynter, Patrick Maddison, Ken Brown

On phone: Susan Sherman, Nicole Edwards, Marc Wethern

Fran Sadowski summarized the phone call with Dr. Fletcher about having NADD experts do training in Montana. We need to see if the State would be willing to help with the costs of training. Fran and Connie will have further discussions with Dr. Fletcher.

Discussion centered around crisis service needs and different models:

- Question arose about the costs of establishing services and how these would be paid.
- Ken will talk to Benchmark about their services in other states.
- Fran will talk to someone in Colorado again to get more specifics.
- The group agreed that there is an immediate need for a facility for individuals with significant mental health needs. Providers are not currently equipped to deal with these individuals given the service provision model.
- The group agreed that we need a “change system” and that there is a need to structure services regionally. There is a feeling that the State and providers are not working together toward a common goal and that the Department is too compartmentalized. The group also agreed that change needs to occur immediately and that the Department and provider agencies need to work together to solve the problem.
- It was also noted that there is no easy fix to this and that it will take an influx of money to make change. Providers are facing high rates of staff turnover and have difficulty filling vacancies. Fran said that MDSC has 37 open positions and that it is like “a revolving door” with the turnover. This creates problems for the individuals in services due to the instability and lack of consistency.
- There was discussion of how the current rates system is flawed – we need money to help make the changes including rates reimbursement and how providers are reimbursed.
- The group agreed that we should define what the system should look like. We need to look at other states that have good systems in place and refine those to fit Montana. The workgroup needs to define what services should look like on a more immediate basis. Fran will talk to someone in Colorado again. Pat will send the link for services in the state of New York. Connie will try to find the complete document from a meeting held on 02-12-13 in which a crisis services system was discussed, including regional crisis services and the costs of establishing such a system.
- Connie and Fran will continue to work with Dr. Fletcher regarding NADD trainings for Montana.

Next meeting has not been set, but will most likely be at the end of February or beginning of March.

Submitted by:

Connie Orr, Behavior Consultation Team